



**United States
Department of
Agriculture**

**Agricultural
Marketing
Service**

**Tobacco
Division**

Official Standard Grades Virginia Fired-Cured Tobacco (U.S. Type 21)

Effective date (November 7, 1986)

Official Standard Grades for Virginia Fire-Cured Tobacco
(U.S. Type 21)

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Official Standard Grades for Virginia Fire-Cured Tobacco
(U.S. Type 21)

DEFINITIONS

Definitions. As used in these standards, the words and phrases hereinafter defined shall have the indicated meanings so assigned.

Air-Dried. The condition of unfermented tobacco as customarily prepared for storage under natural atmospheric conditions.

Body. The thickness and density of a leaf or the weight per unit of surface. (See elements of quality chart.)

Brown colors. A group of colors ranging from a reddish brown to yellowish brown. These colors vary from low to medium saturation and from very low to medium brilliance. As used in these standards, the range is expressed as light brown (L), medium brown (F), and dark brown (D).

Class. A major division of tobacco based on method of cure or principal usage.

Clean. Tobacco is described as clean when it contains only a normal amount of sand or soil particles. Leaves grown on the lower portion of the stalk normally contain more dirt or sand than those from higher stalk positions. (See Rule 4.)

Color. The third factor of a grade based on the relative hues, saturation or chroma, and color values common to the type.

Color intensity. The varying degree of saturation or chroma. Color intensity as applied to tobacco describes the strength or weakness of a specific color or hue. It is applicable to brown colors. (See elements of quality chart.)

Color symbols. As applied to this type, color symbols are: L -- light brown, F -- medium brown, D -- dark brown, M -- mixed or variegated, G -- green, GL -- light green, and GD -- dark green.

Condition. The state of tobacco which results from the method of preparation or from the degree of fermentation. Words used to describe the condition of tobacco are undried, air-dried, steam-dried, sweating, sweated, and aged.

Crude. A subdegree of maturity. Crude leaves are usually hard and slick as a result of extreme immaturity. A similar condition may result from fire-kill, sunburn, or sunscald. Any leaf which is crude to the extent of 20 percent or more of its surface may be described as crude. (See Rule 19.)

Cured. Tobacco dried of its sap by either natural or artificial processes.

Damage. The effect of mold, must, rot, black rot, or other fungous or bacterial diseases which attack tobacco in its cured state. Tobacco having the odor of mold, must, or rot is considered damaged. (See Rule 20.)

Dirty. The state of tobacco containing an abnormal amount of dirt or sand, or tobacco to which additional quantities of dirt or sand have been added. (See Rule 22.)

Elasticity. The flexible, springy nature of the tobacco leaf to recover approximately its original size and shape after it has been stretched. (See elements of quality chart.)

Elements of quality. Physical characteristics used to determine the quality of tobacco. Words selected to describe degrees within each element are shown in the elements chart.

Fiber. The term applied to the veins in a tobacco leaf. The large central vein is called the midrib or stem. The smaller lateral and cross veins are considered from the standpoint of size and color.

Finish. The reflectance factor in color perception. Finish indicates the sheen or shine of the surface of a tobacco leaf. (See elements of quality chart.)

Fire-cured. Tobacco cured under artificial atmospheric conditions by the use of open fires from which the smoke and fumes of burning wood are partly absorbed by the tobacco.

Foreign matter. Any extraneous substance or material such as stalks, suckers, straw, strings, rubber bands, and abnormal amounts of dirt or sand. (See Rule 22.)

Form. The stage of preparation of tobacco such as unstemmed or stemmed.

Grade. A subdivision of a type according to group, quality, and color.

Grademark. A grademark normally consists of three symbols which indicate group, quality, and color. A letter is used to indicate group, a number to indicate quality, and a letter or letters to indicate color. For example, B3D means Heavy Leaf, good quality, and dark-brown color.

Green (G). A term applied to green-colored tobacco. Any leaf which has a green color affecting 20 percent or more of its surface may be described as green. (See Rule 18.)

Group. A division of a type covering closely related grades based on certain characteristics which are usually related to stalk position, body, or the general quality of the tobacco. Groups in this type are Wrappers (A), Heavy Leaf (B), Thin Leaf (C), Lugs (X), Nondescript (N), and Scrap (S).

Injury. Hurt or impairment from any cause except the fungous or bacterial diseases which attack tobacco in its cured state. (See rule 16.)

Leaf scrap. A byproduct of unstemmed tobacco. Leaf scrap results from handling unstemmed tobacco and consists of tangled whole or broken leaves.

Leaf structure. The cell development of a leaf as indicated by its porosity. (See elements of quality chart.)

Length. The linear measurement of cured tobacco leaves from the butt of the midrib to the extreme tip.

Lot. A pile, basket, bulk, or more than one bale, case, hogshead, tierce, package, or other definite package unit.

Maturity. The degree of ripeness. (See elements of quality chart.)

Mixed color or variegated (M). Distinctly different colors of the type mingled together, or any leaf of which 20 percent or more of its surface is off brown, grayish, mottled, or bleached and does not blend with the normal colors of the type or group. (See Rule 17.)

Nested. Any tobacco which has been loaded, packed, or arranged to conceal foreign matter or tobacco of inferior grade, quality, or condition. (See Rule 22.)

No grade. A designation applied to a lot of tobacco classified as nested, offtype, rework, semicured, or premature primings; tobacco that is damaged 20 percent or more, abnormally dirty, extremely wet or watered, contains foreign matter, or has an odor foreign to the type. (See Rule 22.)

Offtype. Tobacco of distinctly different characteristics which cannot be classified as Fire-cured, U.S. Type 21. (See Rule 22.)

Oil. A soft, semifluid constituent of tobacco. (See elements of quality chart.)

Order (case). The state of tobacco with respect to its moisture content.

Package. A hogshead, tierce, case, bale, or other securely enclosed parcel or bundle.

Packing. A lot of tobacco consisting of a number of packages submitted as one definite unit for sampling or inspection. It is represented to contain the same kind of tobacco and has a common identification number or mark on each package.

Premature primings. Ground leaves harvested before reaching complete growth and development. These leaves lack body and strength. (See Rule 22.)

Quality. A division of a group or the second factor of a grade based on the relative degree of one or more elements of quality.

Resweated. The condition of tobacco which has passed through a second fermentation under abnormally high temperatures or re fermented with a relatively high percentage of moisture. Resweated includes tobacco which has been dipped or reconditioned after its first fermentation and put through a forced or artificial sweat.

Rework. Any lot of tobacco which needs to be resorted or otherwise reworked to prepare it properly for market, including: (a) Tobacco which is so mixed that it cannot be classified properly in any grade of the type, because the lot contains a substantial quantity of two or more distinctly different grades which should be separated by sorting; (b) tobacco which contains an abnormally large quantity of foreign matter or an unusual number of muddy or extremely dirty leaves which should be removed; and © tobacco not packed straight or otherwise not properly prepared for market. (See Rule 22.)

Semicured. Tobacco in the process of being cured or which is partially but not thoroughly cured. Semicured includes tobacco which contains fat stems, wet butts, swelled stems, or stems that have not been thoroughly dried in the curing process. (See Rule 22.)

Semifired (SF). Tobacco that is partially or lightly smoked or has not received the amount of smoke that is characteristic of fire-cured tobacco. (See rule 23.)

Side. A certain phase of quality, color, or length as contrasted with some other phase of quality, color, or length; or any peculiar characteristics of tobacco.

Size. The length of tobacco leaves. (See elements of quality chart.)

Sound. Free of damage.

Special factor. A symbol or term authorized to be used with specified grades. Tobacco to which a special factor is applied may meet the general specifications but has a peculiar side or characteristic which tends to modify the grade. (See Rule 10.)

Steam-dried. The condition of unfermented tobacco as customarily prepared for storage by means of a redrying machine or other steam-conditioning equipment.

Stem. The midrib or large central vein of a tobacco leaf.

Stemmed. A form of tobacco, including strips and strip scrap, from which the stems or midribs have been removed.

Strength. The stress a tobacco leaf can bear without tearing. (See elements of quality chart.)

Strips. The sides of a tobacco leaf from which the stem has been removed or a lot of tobacco composed of strips.

Subgrade. Any grade modified by a special factor symbol.

Sweated. The condition of tobacco which has passed through one or more fermentations natural to tobacco packed with a normal percentage of moisture. This condition is sometimes described as aged.

Sweating. The condition of tobacco in the process of fermentation.

Tobacco. Tobacco as it appears between the time it is cured and stripped from the stalk, or primed and cured, and the time it enters into the different manufacturing processes. The acts of stemming, sweating, and conditioning are not regarded as manufacturing processes. Tobacco, as used in these standards, does not include manufactured or semimanufactured products, stems, cuttings, clippings, trimmings, siftings, or dust.

Tobacco products. Manufactured tobacco, including cigarettes, cigars, smoking tobacco, chewing tobacco, and snuff.

Type. A division of a class of tobacco having certain common characteristics and closely related grades. Tobacco which has the same characteristics and corresponding qualities, colors, and lengths is classified as one type, regardless of any factors of historical or geographical nature which cannot be determined by an examination of the tobacco.

Type 21. That type of fire-cured tobacco, known as Virginia Fire-cured or Dark-fired, produced principally in the Piedmont and mountain sections of Virginia.

Undried. The condition of unfermented tobacco which has not been air-dried or steam-dried.

Uniformity. An element of quality which describes the consistency of a lot of tobacco as it is prepared for market. Uniformity is expressed as a percentage in grade specifications. (See Rule 15.)

Unsound (U). Damaged under 20 percent. (See Rule 20.)

Unstemmed. A form of tobacco, including whole leaf and leaf scrap, from which the stems or midribs have not been removed.

Wet (W). Any sound tobacco containing excessive moisture to the extent that it is in unsafe or doubtful-keeping order. Wet applies to any tobacco which is not damaged but which is likely to damage if treated in the customary manner. (See Rule 21.) (For extremely wet or watered tobacco, see Rule 22.)

Width. The relative breadth of a tobacco leaf expressed in relation to its length. (See elements of quality chart.)

ELEMENTS OF QUALITY AND DEGREES OF EACH ELEMENT Virginia Fire-Cured Tobacco, Type 21

Tobacco attributes or characteristics which constitute quality are designated as elements of quality. The range within each element is expressed by words or terms designated as degrees. These degrees are arranged to show their relative value and are used in determining the quality of tobacco. The actual value of each degree varies with group.

ELEMENTS		DEGREES	
BODY	Thin	Medium	Heavy
MATURITY	Immature	Mature	Ripe
LEAF STRUCTURE	Close	Firm	Open
OIL	Lean	Oily	Rich
ELASTICITY	Inelastic	Semielastic	Elastic
STRENGTH	Weak	Normal	Strong
FINISH	Dull	Clear	Bright
COLOR INTENSITY	Pale	Moderate	Deep
WIDTH	Narrow	Normal	Spready Broad
Uniformity	Expressed in percentages		
Injury tolerance	Expressed in percentages		

SIZES

Standard sizes. 1/

<u>Inches</u>	<u>SIZE</u>
12 - 20	1
20 - 28	2
Over 28	3

1/ The application of sizes is governed by the major portion of the lot or package.

RULES

Rules. The application of these official standard grades shall be in accordance with the following rules.

Rule 1. Each grade shall be treated as a subdivision of a particular type. When the grade is stated in an inspection certificate, the type also shall be stated.

Rule 2. The determination of a grade shall be based upon a thorough examination of a lot of tobacco or of an official sample of the lot.

Rule 3. In drawing an official sample from a hogshead or other package of tobacco, two or more breaks shall be made at such points and in such manner as the inspector or sampler may find necessary to determine the kinds of tobacco and the percentage of each kind contained in the lot. All breaks shall be made so that the tobacco contained in the center of the package is visible to the sampler. Tobacco shall be drawn from at least two breaks from which a representative sample shall be selected.

Rule 4. All standard grades must be clean.

Rule 5. The grade assigned to any lot of tobacco shall be a true representation of the tobacco at the time of inspection and certification. If, at any time, it is found that a lot of tobacco does not comply with the specifications of the grade previously assigned it shall not thereafter be represented as such grade.

Rule 6. A lot of tobacco on the marginal line between two colors shall be placed in the color with which it best corresponds with respect to body or other associated elements of quality.

Rule 7. Any lot of tobacco which meets the specifications of two grades shall be placed in the higher grade. Any lot of tobacco on the marginal line between two grades shall be placed in the lower grade.

Rule 8. A lot of tobacco meets the specifications of a grade when it is not lower in any degree of any element of quality than the minimum specifications of such grade.

Rule 9. In determining the grade of a lot of tobacco, the lot as a whole shall be considered. Minor irregularities which do not affect over 1 percent of the tobacco shall be overlooked.

Rule 10. Any special factor symbol approved by the Director of the Tobacco Division, Agricultural Marketing Service, may be used after a grademark to show a peculiar side or characteristic of the tobacco which tends to modify the grade.

Rule 11. Interpretations, the use of specifications, and the meaning of terms shall be in accordance with determinations or clarifications made by the Chief of the Standards and Testing Branch and approved by the Director.

Rule 12. The use of any grade may be restricted by the Director during any marketing season, when it is found that the grade is not needed or appears in insufficient volume to justify its use.

Rule 13. Length shall be stated in connection with each grade of the A, B and C groups and may be stated in connection with the grades of other groups. The standard tobacco sizes shall be used.

Rule 14. The standard tobacco size 2 shall be used to designate X group tobacco of M or G color when such tobacco is 20 inches or over in length.

Rule 15. Uniformity shall be expressed in percentages. These percentages shall govern the portion of a lot which must meet each specification of the grade. The minor portion must be closely related but may be of a different group, quality, and color from the major portion. Specified percentages of uniformity shall not affect limitations established by other rules.

Rule 16. Injury tolerance shall be expressed in percentages. The appraisal of injury shall be based upon the percentage of affected leaf surface or the degree of injury. In appraising injury, consideration shall be given to the normal characteristics of the group.

Rule 17. Any lot of tobacco of the B, C, or X groups containing over 30 percent of mixed color or variegated leaves or over 30 percent of mixed color and variegated leaves combined shall be classified as "mixed" and designated by the color symbol "M."

Rule 18. Any lot of tobacco containing 20 percent or more of green leaves or any lot which is not crude but contains 20 percent or more of green and crude combined shall be designated by the color symbols ``G", ``GL", or ``GD".

Rule 19. Crude leaves shall not be included in any grade of any color except green, light green, or dark green. Any lot containing 20 percent or more of crude leaves shall be designated nondescript.

Rule 20. Tobacco damaged under 20 percent but which otherwise meets the specifications of a grade shall be treated as a subgrade by placing the special factor ``U" after the grademark. Tobacco damaged 20 percent or more shall be designated ``No-G."

Rule 21. Sound tobacco that is wet or in doubtful-keeping order but which otherwise meets the specifications of a grade shall be treated as a subgrade by placing the special factor ``W" after the grademark. This special factor does not apply to tobacco designated ``No-G."

Rule 22. Tobacco shall be designated No Grade, using the grademark ``No-G," when it is classified as dirty, nested, offtype, semicured, premature primings, damaged 20 percent or more, extremely wet or watered or when it needs to be reworked, contains foreign matter, or has an odor foreign to type.

Rule 23. Tobacco that is semifired but which otherwise meets the specifications of a grade shall be treated as a subgrade by placing the special factor ``SF" after the grademark. This factor does not apply to tobacco designated ``No-G".

GRADES

Wrappers (A Group). This group consists of leaves usually grown at or above the center portion of the stalk. Cured leaves of the A group show a low percentage of injury affecting wrapper yield. Wrappers are high in oil, very elastic, and have a smooth leaf surface.

U.S.

Grades

Grade Names and Specifications

A1F Choice Medium-brown Wrappers.

Medium body, ripe, firm, rich in oil, elastic, strong, bright finish, deep color intensity, broad, 95 percent uniform, and 5 percent injury tolerance.

A2F Fine Medium-brown Wrappers.

Medium body, ripe, firm, rich in oil, elastic, strong, clear finish, deep color intensity, spready, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

A1D Choice Dark-brown Wrappers.

Heavy, ripe, firm, rich in oil, elastic, strong, bright finish, deep color intensity, broad, 95 percent uniform, and 5 percent injury tolerance.

A2D Fine Dark-brown Wrappers.

Heavy, ripe, firm, rich in oil, elastic, strong, clear finish, deep color intensity, spready, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

Heavy Leaf (B Group). This group consists of leaves usually grown at or above the center portion of the stalk. These leaves have a pointed tip, tend to fold, are heavier in body than those of the X or C groups, and show no ground injury. Choice- and fine-quality leaves of this group have a distinctive, smooth leaf surface.

U.S.

Grades

Grade Names and Specifications

B1F Choice Medium-brown Heavy Leaf.

Medium body, ripe, firm, oily, semi-elastic, strong, bright finish, deep color intensity, broad, 95 percent uniform, and 5 percent injury tolerance.

B2F Fine Medium-brown Heavy Leaf.

Medium body, ripe, firm, oily, semi-elastic, strong, clear finish, deep color intensity, spready, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

B3F Good Medium-brown Heavy Leaf.

Medium body, mature, firm, oily, semielastic, normal strength, clear finish, moderate color intensity, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

B4F Fair Medium-brown Heavy Leaf.

Medium body, mature, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, dull-finish, pale color intensity, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

B5F Low Medium-brown Heavy Leaf.

Medium body, mature, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, dull finish, pale color intensity, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

B1D Choice Dark-brown Heavy Leaf.

Heavy, ripe, firm, oily, semielastic, strong, bright finish, deep color intensity, spready, 95 percent uniform, and 5 percent injury tolerance.

B2D Fine Dark-brown Heavy Leaf.

Heavy, ripe, firm, oily, semielastic, strong, clear finish, deep color intensity, spready, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

B3D Good Dark-brown Heavy Leaf.

Heavy, mature, firm, oily, semi-elastic, normal strength, clear finish, moderate color intensity, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

B4D Fair Dark-brown Heavy Leaf.

Heavy, mature, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, dull finish, pale color intensity, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

B5D Low Dark-brown Heavy Leaf.

Heavy, mature, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, dull finish, pale color intensity, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

B3M Good Mixed Color Heavy Leaf.

Medium to heavy body, mature, firm, oily, semielastic, normal strength and width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

B4M Fair Mixed Color Heavy Leaf.

Medium to heavy body, mature, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

B5M Low Mixed Color Heavy Leaf.

Medium to heavy body, mature, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

B3G Good Green Heavy Leaf.

Medium to heavy body, mature, firm, oily, semielastic, normal strength, clear finish, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

B4G Fair Green Heavy Leaf.

Medium to heavy body, immature, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, dull finish, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

B5G Low Green Heavy Leaf.

Medium to heavy body, immature, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, dull finish, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

Thin Leaf (C Group). This group consists of leaves usually grown at the center portion of the stalk. These leaves normally have a rounded tip, are thinner in body than those of the B group, and show little or no ground injury. Choice- and fine-quality tobacco of this group has a distinctive, smooth leaf surface.

U.S. Grades	Grade Names and Specifications
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C1L Choice Light-brown Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, mature to ripe, firm, oily, semielastic, strong, bright finish, deep color intensity, broad, 95 percent uniform, and 5 percent injury tolerance.

C2L Fine Light-brown Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, mature to ripe, firm, oily, semielastic, strong, clear finish, deep color intensity, spready, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

C3L Good Light-brown Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, mature to ripe, firm, oily, semielastic, normal strength, clear finish, moderate color intensity, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

C4L Fair Light-brown Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, mature to ripe, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, dull finish, pale color intensity, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

C5L Low Light-brown Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, mature to ripe, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, dull finish, pale color intensity, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

1F Choice Medium-brown Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, mature to ripe, firm, oily, semielastic, strong, bright finish, deep color intensity, broad, 95 percent uniform, and 5 percent injury tolerance.

C2F Fine Medium-brown Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, mature to ripe, firm, oily, semielastic, strong, clear finish, deep color intensity, spready, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

C3F Good Medium-brown Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, mature to ripe, firm, oily, semielastic, normal strength, clear finish, moderate color intensity, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

C4F Fair Medium-brown Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, mature to ripe, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, dull finish, pale color intensity, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

C5F Low Medium-brown Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, mature to ripe, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, dull finish, pale color intensity, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

C2D Fine Dark-brown Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, mature to ripe, firm, oily, semielastic, strong, clear finish, deep color intensity, spready, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

C3D Good Dark-brown Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, mature to ripe, firm, lean in oil, inelastic, normal strength, clear finish, moderate color intensity, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

C4D Fair Dark-brown Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, mature to ripe, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, dull finish, pale color intensity, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

C5D Low Dark-brown Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, mature to ripe, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, dull finish, pale color intensity, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

C3M Good Mixed Color Thin Leaf

Thin to medium body, mature, firm, oily, semielastic, normal strength and width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

C4M Fair Mixed Color Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, mature, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

C5M Low Mixed Color Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, immature, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, narrow, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

C3G Good Green Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, mature, firm, oily, semielastic, normal strength, clear finish, normal width, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

C4G Fair Green Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, immature, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, dull finish, narrow, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

C5G Low Green Thin Leaf.

Thin to medium body, immature, close, lean in oil, inelastic, weak, dull finish, narrow, 60 percent uniform and 40 percent injury tolerance.

Lugs (X Group). This group consists of leaves that normally grow near the bottom of the stalk. These leaves usually have a blunt tip, tend to roll, and show ground injury.

U.S. Grade Names and Specifications
Grades

X1L Choice Light-brown Lugs.

Thin to medium body, ripe, firm to open, oily, normal strength, clear finish, moderate color intensity, 95 percent uniform, and 5 percent injury tolerance.

X2L Fine Light-brown Lugs.

Thin to medium body, ripe, firm to open, oily, normal strength, clear finish, moderate color intensity, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

X3L Good Light-brown Lugs.

Thin to medium body, ripe, open, lean in oil, normal strength, dull finish, pale color intensity, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

X4L Fair Light-brown Lugs.

Thin to medium body, mature open, lean in oil, weak, dull finish, pale color intensity, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

X5L Low Light-brown Lugs.

Thin to medium body, mature, open, lean in oil, weak, dull finish, pale color intensity, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

X1F Choice Medium-brown Lugs.

Medium body, ripe, firm to open, oily, normal strength, clear finish, moderate color intensity, 95 percent uniform, and 5 percent injury tolerance.

X2F Fine Medium-brown Lugs.

Medium body, ripe, firm to open, oily, normal strength, clear finish, moderate color intensity, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

X3F Good Medium-brown Lugs.

Medium body, ripe, open, lean in oil, normal strength, dull finish, pale color intensity, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

X4F Fair Medium-brown Lugs.

Thin to medium body, mature, open, lean in oil, weak, dull finish, pale color intensity, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

X5F Low Medium-brown Lugs.

Thin to medium body, mature, open, lean in oil, weak, dull finish, pale color intensity, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

X1D Choice Dark-brown Lugs.

Medium to heavy body, ripe, firm to open, oily, normal strength, clear finish, moderate color intensity, 95 percent uniform, and 5 percent injury tolerance.

X2D Fine Dark-brown Lugs.

Medium to heavy body, ripe, firm to open, oily, normal strength, clear finish, moderate color intensity, 90 percent uniform, and 10 percent injury tolerance.

X3D Good Dark-brown Lugs.

Medium to heavy body, ripe, open, lean in oil, normal strength, dull finish, pale color intensity, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

X4D Fair Dark-brown Lugs.

Medium to heavy body, mature, open, lean in oil, weak, dull finish, pale color intensity, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

X5D Low Dark-brown Lugs.

Medium to heavy body, mature, open, lean in oil, weak, dull finish, pale color intensity, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

X3M Good Mixed Color Lugs

Medium to heavy body, mature, open, lean in oil, normal strength, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

X4M Fair Mixed Color Lugs.

Thin to medium body, mature, open, lean in oil, weak, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

X5M Low Mixed Color Lugs.

Thin to medium body, mature, open, lean in oil, weak, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

X3G Good Green Lugs.

Medium to heavy body, mature, firm, lean in oil, normal strength, dull finish, 80 percent uniform, and 20 percent injury tolerance.

X4G Fair Green Lugs.

Medium to heavy body, immature, close, lean in oil, weak, dull finish, 70 percent uniform, and 30 percent injury tolerance.

X5G Low Green Lugs.

Thin to medium body, immature, close, lean in oil, weak, dull finish, 60 percent uniform, and 40 percent injury tolerance.

Nondescript (N Group). Extremely common tobacco which does not meet the minimum specifications or which exceeds the tolerance of the lowest grade of any other group except scrap.

U.S. Grade Names and Specifications
Grades

N1L First quality light colored nondescript.

Thin to medium body and 50 percent injury tolerance.

N1D First quality dark colored nondescript .

Medium to heavy body and 50 percent injury tolerance.

N1GL First quality light colored crude green nondescript

Thin to medium body and 50 percent crude leaves or injury tolerance.

N1GD First quality dark colored crude green nondescript.

Medium to heavy body and 50 percent crude leaves or injury tolerance.

N2 Substandard Nondescript.

Nondescript of any group or color, over 50 percent crude leaves or injury tolerance.

Scrap (S Group). A byproduct of unstemmed and stemmed tobacco. Scrap accumulates from handling tobacco in farm buildings, warehouses, packing and conditioning plants, and stemmeries.

U.S. Grade Name and Specifications
Grade

S Scrap.

Tangled, whole, or broken unstemmed leaves, or the web portions of tobacco leaves reduced to scrap by any process.

SUMMARY OF STANDARD GRADES

4 Grades of wrappers

A1F A1D
A2F A2D

16 Grades of Heavy Leaf

B1F B1D
B2F B2D
B3F B3D B3M B3G
B4F B4D B4M B4G
B5F B5D B5M B5G

20 Grades of thin leaf

C1L C1F
C2L C2F C2D
C3L C3F C3D C3M C3G
C4L C4F C4D C4M C4G
C5L C5F C5D C5M C5G

21 Grades of Lugs

X1L X1F X1D
X2L X2F X2D
X3L X3F X3D X3M X3G
X4L X4F X4D X4M X4G
X5L X5F X5D X5M X5G

5 Grades of nondescript

N1L N1D N1GL N1GD
N2

1 Grade of Scrap

S

Special factors ``U'', ``W'' and ``SF'' may be applied to all grades.
Tobacco not covered by the standard grades is designated ``No-G."

Standard sizes applicable

A1 - A2	2, 3
B1	2, 3
B2 - B3 - B4 - B5	1, 2, 3
C1	2, 3
C2 - C3 - C4 - C5	1, 2, 3
X3 - X4 - X5, M and G 1/	2

1/ No size is applied to these grades if tobacco is under size 2.

Key to Standard Grademarks.

<u>Groups</u>	<u>Qualities</u>	<u>Colors</u>
A - Wrappers	1 - Choice	L - Light Brown
B - Heavy Leaf	2 - Fine	F - Medium Brown
C - Thin Leaf	3 - Good	D - Dark Brown
X - Lugs	4 - Fair	M - Mixed or Variegated
N - Nondescript	5 - Low	G - Green
S - Scrap		GL- Light Green
		GD- Dark Green